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The  
**Council of Women**  
for  
**Home Missions**

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CONSTITUTION  
AND BY-LAWS

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156 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY



# CONSTITUTION

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## Article I. Name

The name of this organization shall be The Council of Women for Home Missions.

## Article II. Object

The object of the Council shall be to unify the efforts of the National Women's Home Mission Boards and Societies by consultation and by co-operation in action.

## Article III. Membership

There shall be two classes of membership: Voting and Consulting.

### VOTING

a. **Constituent.** Such National Women's Home Mission Boards and Societies as shall agree to co-operate in the purposes and work of the Council may become Constituent members of the Council. Each Constituent Board or Society having an annual income above \$50,000 shall be entitled to nine representatives in the Council; each Constituent Board or Society having an annual income of less than \$50,000 shall be entitled to three representatives in the Council. Only representatives of Constituent Boards shall be eligible to hold office.

b. **Affiliated.** Summer Schools of Missions may be affiliated with the Council in accordance with the provisions of By-Law VI. Each affiliated Summer School shall be represented in the Council by its Chairman, who shall have full voting power.

### CONSULTING

c. Organizations which are in full ac-

cord and sympathy with the aims and methods of the Council, but which by their Constitutions and methods of work do not come under the provisions of Article III, Sections a and b, may become Consulting Organizations. Such affiliations shall not include the right to vote in the meetings of the Council or involve financial obligation; but representatives appointed by these organizations may sit with the Council at its meetings and be members of such Standing and Sub-Committees as the Executive Committee shall decide, with the full right of vote in such Committees.

#### **Article IV. Officers**

The officers of the Council shall consist of a President, two or more Vice-Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, and a Treasurer, and shall include at least one representative of each Constituent Board or Society of the Council. Their duties shall be those usually pertaining to such officers.

#### **Article V. Elections**

Two months before the Annual Meeting a Nominating Committee of five shall be appointed by the Executive Committee, not more than two of whom shall be from its own membership. This Committee shall present to the Annual Meeting a list of nominees for the offices of the Council. This shall not preclude nominations from the floor. Elections shall be by ballot.

#### **Article VI. Executive Committee**

a. The Executive Committee shall consist of the officers of the Council, the Chairmen of Standing Committees and the three members-at-large.

b. The officers shall elect the chairmen of Standing Committees and the members-at-large.

c. The President and Secretaries of the

Council shall be the Chairman and Secretaries of the Executive Committee.

d. Five members representing at least four Constituent Boards or Societies shall constitute a quorum of the Executive Committee.

e. At its first meeting held after the Annual Meeting, the Executive Committee shall elect a Vice-President-at-Large from among the Vice-Presidents. A nominating ballot shall be taken, the three receiving the largest number of votes to be considered the nominees. A majority vote of those present and voting, by a written ballot, shall be necessary to elect.

f. It shall appoint the time and place of its own meetings, and shall meet at least once a year in connection with the Annual Meeting of the Council. Meetings may be called in the interim by the President and Secretary, suitable notice being given by the Secretary, or on request of three members of the Council representing at least two Boards or Societies.

g. It shall decide upon the eligibility to membership of organizations which apply for admission to the Council, and shall determine the form of membership to be accorded to them.

h. It shall arrange for the auditing of the books of the Treasurer.

i. It shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to have general oversight of the work of the Council and in emergencies to take all necessary action.

## Article VII. Standing Committees

The Council shall have the following Standing Committees, and such others as may be decided upon by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual meeting of the Council.

1. Home Mission Study Courses and Literature.
2. Home Mission Summer Schools.
3. Home Mission Interests in Schools, Colleges, and Young People's Conferences.
4. Home Mission Interests Among Immigrants.

The members of all Standing Committees shall be appointed by the Executive Committee. The Committee on Home Mission Summer Schools shall include the chairmen of all affiliated Schools. The size of the Standing Committees shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

### Article VIII. Meetings

The Annual Meeting of the Council shall be held in January of each year, the time and place to be determined by the Executive Committee. Special meetings of the Council may be called by the President and Corresponding Secretary, or on the request of five members of the Council representing at least four Boards or Societies. Suitable notice of all meetings shall be given by the Recording Secretary of the Council, who shall state the business to be considered in the case of special meetings.

Seven members, representing at least five Boards or Societies, shall constitute a quorum.

### Article IX. Amendments

The Constitution of the Council may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any meeting, provided the amendment proposed has been presented in writing at a previous meeting of the Council, or is recommended by the Executive Committee. In either case, it must be stated in full in the call for the meeting.



# BY-LAWS

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## I.

The President shall appoint all Committees unless otherwise ordered. The President shall be a member of all committees ex-officio.

## II.

All bills shall be approved by the Chairman of the Committee incurring the expense and by the Chairman of the Finance Committee appointed by the Executive Committee, before payment by the Treasurer.

## III.

All expenses necessary for administration incurred by the officers shall be paid by the Council.

## IV.

There shall be an annual membership fee from each Constituent Board or Society. Boards or Societies having an annual income of \$50,000 or more for Home Missions shall pay an annual membership fee of \$75, those whose annual income is less than \$50,000 shall pay an annual membership fee of \$25.

## V.

a. In case any member of the Council is unable to be present at a meeting of the Council a proxy may be appointed by her Board, or Society, or by the Secretary thereof.

b. Any member of the Executive Committee who is unable to attend a meeting of the Committee may appoint as her proxy for that meeting any other representative of her Board or Society who is a member

of the Council. Such appointment shall not carry with it official position. The Executive Committee may elect its own Secretaries in the absence of those officers.

c. Chairmen of Standing Committees unable to be present at the meetings of the Council, shall appoint substitutes from their own Committees, and these substitutes shall be given full powers.

d. Any member of a Standing Committee who is unable to attend a meeting of the Committee may appoint as her proxy for the meeting one of the representatives of her Board or Society in the membership of the Council.

## VI.

An organized Summer School or Conference may become affiliated with the Council on application, provided that it has previously secured the expressed approval of its plans and purposes from three or more Constituent Boards, or Societies, of the Council.

## VII.

The Standing Committees shall perform the following duties:

1. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Home Mission Study Courses and Literature to plan, as far as possible, for two years in advance, the interdenominational courses of Home Mission Study for Women's Societies and affiliated organizations (including the selection of authors for textbooks), and these plans shall be presented for approval at the annual meeting of the Council. This Committee shall provide a program for the Interdenominational Day of Prayer and approve such other literature as is suitable for interdenominational use. It shall have power to act in emergencies without concurrence of the Council.



2. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Home Mission Summer Schools to have in general an oversight of the work of the various Home Mission Summer Schools affiliated with the Council. Each School, however, will be independent as to the management of its own meetings and the provision of its own programs. This Committee shall, through the Council, recommend to the various Boards or Societies the establishment of such new centers for Schools as shall be approved by the Council. It may suggest to the Committees in charge of Home Mission Summer Schools leaders of study classes, and render them otherwise all assistance possible. It shall provide for the files of the Council a record of the organization of each Home Mission Summer School Committee, and the full membership of each. It shall present in writing at the annual meeting of the Council a report of all affiliating Summer Schools.

3. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Home Mission Interests in Schools, Colleges and Young People's Conferences to secure, as far as possible, the presentation of Home Missions in the various schools, colleges, and conferences other than those specifically organized for Home Mission work, and especially to promote therein the establishment of Home Mission Study Classes.

4. It shall be the duty of the Committee on Home Mission Interests among Immigrants, to devise and promote practical methods of work among these people and to stimulate such lines of work as shall further their Christian education and acquaintance with the Bible. It shall also secure and keep on file information regarding Immigrants and the Christian work being done among them, and on their behalf, at ports of entry and elsewhere.

## VIII.

Standing Committees may form such sub-committees as are deemed necessary, or desirable, for the work of the Committee. The members of such sub-committees shall be duly nominated and voted upon in a Committee meeting. Vacancies shall be filled by the Chairman of the Standing Committee.

Of Committees consisting of eighteen or more members one-third shall constitute a quorum. Of Committees consisting of nine members five shall constitute a quorum.

## IX.

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any meeting of the Council where at least twenty members representing five Boards, or Societies, are present.



